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## J. Adalberto Quijada Chosen for Senior Executive Service Program

## Director of SBA's Santa Ana District Office selected to prestigious leadership program

The U.S. Small Business Administration announced today, that J. Adalberto Quijada is one of 14 individuals in the United States selected to participate in the Senior Executive Service Candidate Development Program (SES CDP).

The program was developed by the Office of Personnel Management to provide trained leaders for government agencies that are facing unprecedented numbers of employee retirements. It is anticipated that 35% of federal agency supervisors and managers will be eligible for voluntary retirement and more than 59% will be eligible within the next five years.

The Senior Executive Service Candidate Development Program was developed as an effort to address this void that could result in a loss of continuity, institutional knowledge and expertise at the highest levels of the federal government. More than 395 people applied to be accepted in the program. The screening process lasted almost one year and resulted in 14 individuals being selected.

The training program will develop leadership skills of the participants that will help them create strategies for meeting the complex challenges facing their organizations in the future. Participants will take a combination of formal training, attend seminars, and be detailed on developmental assignments to gain more knowledge about how government functions.

Mr. Quijada is the Santa Ana District Director for the U.S. Small Business Administration. The office serves Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. SBA employees who have been accepted to participate in the SES CDP will remain in their current position of record while fulfilling the program requirements. The program will last between 18 and 24 months.

Many government and community leaders congratulated Mr. Quijada on being chosen for this prestigious program. Sallie Salinas, director of the IWE Women's Business Center located at Rancho Santiago Community College District said, "Adalberto has brought strong leadership to the SBA's Santa Ana District Office. In the past three years, we have seen his commitment and dedication, especially to the Hispanic community. We congratulate him on his selection and know he will bring the things he learns back to the communities he has served so well."